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FOUR HUNDRED MORE MINERS ENTOMBED BY AN EXPLOSION

Smoke Soon Begins to Issue From the Mouth of the Mine and It is Feared All are Lost--One Hundred of the Miners were Americans.

Mouth of the Mine is Wrecked and This Together With the Fire Which is Raging Inside Prevents All Attempts at Rescue--District of Jacobs Creek, Pennsylvania Feels the Effects of the Explosion and Buildings Near the Darr Mine are Wrecked--The Condition of the Mine Leaves Little Hope That Any of the Men in the Mine Can Escape With Their Lives.

Connellsville, Pa., Dec. 19.—Four hundred miners are entombed in the Darr mines of the Pittsburgh Coal company, at Jacob's creek, 18 miles west of here. Of these 400, fully 100 are Americans, the rest being principally Hungarians.

The terrific explosion shook the vicinity of the mine at 11:30 this morning, and announced to all the surrounding community, that a great convulsion of some kind had occurred down under the surface. Shortly after, smoke began to issue in heavy volumes from the mouth of the mine, which is of the slope variety. The mouth of the mine was wrecked, and this circumstance, in

connection with the smoke and fire, which was discovered to be raging inside, prevented effectually, up to 1 p. m., any attempts at rescue of the imprisoned men. The building of the Federal Supply Company, adjacent to the entrance of the mine, was slightly damaged by the force of the shock.

Among those imprisoned are: pit boss O. C. Connell, and two are bosses.

On account of the violence of the explosion and presence of fire it is not thought there is much chance for the men inside. Whether they have survived or will survive is one of the uncertainties of the present hour.

GURKO SAYS GENERAL STOESSEL IS A COWARD

Four Orders for Him to Give Up Command at Port Arthur were Ignored by Him--He is Alleged to Have Run for Shelter When a Battle was on--He Advised Abandoning Port Arthur.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 19.—Lieut. Gen. Stoessel is accused of having shown the white feather under fire on two different occasions. This accusation was made yesterday by Col. Gurko, who was on the stand as a witness before the court-martial which is trying the general on the charge of failure in the proper defense of Port Arthur.

The court was investigating the circumstances of Gen. Kuropatkin's order dated June 18, 1904, in which Gen. Stoessel was told to turn over the command of the fortress to Gen. Smirnov and join the Manchurian army.

Gen. Stoessel disregarded this order and it was repeated three times. He suppressed the copy of the order addressed to Gen. Smirnov and finally was allowed to remain at Port Arthur.

Gen. Kuropatkin testified that early in May doubts had arisen as to the fitness of Gen. Stoessel to command the fortress owing to his nervousness. This idea was strengthened by a communication

sent by Gen. Smirnov to his aid, Col. Gurko, that Stoessel was a coward and apt to lose his head during an assault and that it might be necessary to place him under arrest to prevent the fall of the fortress. Gen. Kuropatkin, after obtaining confirmatory details of this statement from Col. Gurko, sent the order superseding Gen. Stoessel.

Answering Gen. Stoessel's query as to what grounds he had for making such a statement to Gen. Kuropatkin Col. Gurko related two instances in which Gen. Stoessel had ordered his staff to scatter under fire himself heading the dash for shelter.

The testimony brought to light the fact that Gen. Kuropatkin before the war had recommended the abandonment of Port Arthur and the restoration of the Kwangtung peninsula to the Chinese who were to pay \$125,000,000 for it. He considered that the opening of Port Dainy destroyed the strategic importance of Port Arthur.

WANT BURTON TO TAKE LEAD IN CLEVELAND

Taft Republicans Will Urge Him to Endeavor to Again Gain the Leadership in Cuyahoga--Herrick Promises to Get into the Fight for Dick's Seat in the Senate.

Cleveland, O., Dec. 19.—The swing of fists in the fight for Republican control of Ohio is scheduled to begin in deadly earnest in Cleveland Saturday.

Congressman Howland returns from Washington today. Senators Foraker and Dick will be here Saturday. The call for chosen lieutenants of the senators to gather here

the last of the week went out yesterday. The call is not a request but rather a war order.

Congressman Burton is expected no later than Sunday morning. He will be urged to drop all other matters and get into the contest for control in this county at once. Powerful Republican politicians will demand that Burton take the lead in the fight for a solid Taft in-

structed state convention delegation from the county.

None of the Republican leaders now attempt to deny that a stiff factional fight a contest with many possibilities is at hand. Colors will have to be shown within the next week. Leaders, committee men and workers will be forced from places of retreat. The program is to make them declare their positions. They must say whether they are with the two United States senators or with Roosevelt and Secretary Taft.

From sources friendly to the senators comes the information that ex-Gov. Herrick, present national committee man, is laying his plans for an active campaign in the contest for control in Cuyahoga. Continued on Page Four.

DOVE OF PEACE

Hughes will be Indorsed and Roosevelt's Administration Sanctioned by New York.

Washington, Dec. 19.—According to New York politicians here, the dove of peace will settle down over the meeting of New York county republican committee tonight, at which it is proposed to pass resolution endorsing Governor Hughes for the presidential nomination.

There seems to be ground for the report that a deal has been arranged with the administration forces, whereby the latter consent to let the Hughes endorsement go through in return for a resolution approving Roosevelt administration.

Secretary Loeb had a long conference with Timothy Woodruff, chairman of the state central committee last night after which Woodruff telegraphed Manhattan.

MAGNIFICENT FUNERAL GIVEN SWEDEN'S OLD KING

Stockholm, Sweden, Dec. 19.—Late King Oscar's corpse was laid today beside the other past and gone Swedish royalties in Riddholm's cathedral. His funeral was the most magnificent Sweden has ever seen. Special representatives were present from nearly every country in Europe.

VIA SUEZ CANAL

Admiral Evans will Bring Big Feet Back to the Atlantic.

Chicago, Dec. 19.—Uncle Sam's fleet of battleships is to return from its Pacific cruise via the Suez canal, according to a wireless message to the Tribune from the battleship Louisiana. This dispatch says Admiral Evans made the announcement on the authority of President Roosevelt at a ward room dinner, Monday night. This is the first definite news of the plans of the "battle fleet." It would mean a voyage of more than thirty thousand miles.

OHIO DELEGATION

Draws a Number of Prizes When Cannon Names His Committee.

Washington, Dec. 19.—The committee assignments of the Ohio congressional delegation, announced by Speaker Cannon today, is as follows: Ashbrook, education, pension, Bannan, elections, No. 3, judiciary. Expenditures in state department, Burton river and harbors, chairman banking and currency, Cole, agriculture, territories, irrigation, Dawes, railways and canal, military affairs, Pacific railroads, Denver, rifleage.

Douglas, mines and mining, merchant marine, civil service.

Goebel, postoffice and post-roads, labor, education, Harding, liquor traffic, public buildings, war department expenditures, Howland, public lands, department of justice expenditures, Kefauver, appropriations, Kennedy, interstate and foreign commerce, interior department expenditures, Lansing, elections No. 3, pensions, war claims, Longworth ways and means, Mouser, elections No. 1, claims, merchant marine, Sherwood, military affairs, District of Columbia, Thomas, naval affairs, Toulville, education, election No. 2, Weems, banking and currency, elections No. 2.

MUST REMOVE DOG'S CARCASS FROM CEMETERY

Frankfort, Ky., Dec. 19.—The court of appeals reversed the case of Henry Hertle against Alice Riddle, W. G. Hansbrough and Ada Hansbrough, from the Jefferson circuit court, Louisville, and the latter will be compelled to remove from their lot in Cave Hill cemetery the body of a dog buried there several months ago.

Hertle sought to enjoin the defendants and compel them to remove the carcass of the dog after learning it had been interred on a plot adjoining his family lot in the city of the dead.

The opinion of the court, by Judge Barker, holds that it would be possible for an owner of a lot to bury a horse or a donkey if he or she was so disposed.

THE LIE PASSED

Representatives Williams and Dermond Indulge in a Fist Fight.

Washington, Dec. 19.—Representative Deamond, democrat from Missouri, and minority leader Williams, of Mississippi, passed the lie on the floor of the house just after adjournment today. A fist fight between the two followed, which required six congressmen to stop. Williams was taken to his room with blood streaming down his face, Deamond having gotten in a vicious blow that opened the cheek for several inches.

MINERS AND OPERATORS MEET IN INDIANAPOLIS

Question of a Strike, the Greatest Ever Witnessed in This Country May be Speedily Settled--Operators Ready for Any Proposition From the Miners--Meetings Held Behind Closed Doors.

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 19.—With strong hopes on the part of both operators and miners that some sort of an agreement would be reached, the joint meeting of miners' officers and operators committee began here today. The purpose of the meeting is to decide whether the interstate agreement shall be restored.

This meeting is probably the most important labor and capital gathering held this year, because, on its outcome, depends the question of the biggest labor strike with which this country has ever

been menaced. All contracts of the United Mine Workers of America with their employes expire simultaneously, April 1st. This would mean, in the case of a strike which leaders of both sides hope to avoid, that practically every coal mine in the country will be closed. There are 375,000 union miners and all industries would be seriously affected, if fuel cannot be secured.

The operators announced this morning that they were ready to listen to any proposition the miners have to make. The meetings are behind closed doors.

POWERS' FATE HANGS ON GUN'S IDENTITY

Positive Identification of the Rifle, Which is Exhibited in Court, May Seal His Fate--Youtsey is to be Brought From the Penitentiary Again to Testify in the Case

Georgetown, Ky., Dec. 19.—For the first time since it sent a bullet speeding on its fatal mission into the body of William Goebel, Jan. 30, 1900, the Marlin rifle, about which so much has been said, was placed in evidence yesterday in the trial of Caleb Powers, charged with complicity in the murder, when Grant L. Roberts took the stand. It is now in the custody of the court as an exhibit in the noted case. When the gun was brought into court it was found to have been carefully screwed up in a wooden box, the box wrapped in brown paper, and the whole securely tied. Being extracted from its covering, the gun, rusty and worn from non-use and lack of care, was exhibited. The steel bullet and smokeless powder cartridges remaining in its magazine after that one shot had been fired, had been removed by Mr. Roberts before packing it, and these, too, were filed as exhibits in the case.

Arthur Goebel, brother of the murdered man, sat sphinx like, watching every detail connected with the incident. Here at last was the horrible implement of death which had caused the untimely end of his famous brother. Caleb Powers had moved his seat away from his counsel toward the stove, and while closely watching every movement made, was sheltered from the gaze of the curious by the large iron screen used as a heat reflector. The moment was tense. Every eye was strained. What might be the outcome none could guess, and its effect on the fate of the noted prisoner was a matter problematical.

That the defense expects to reap some benefit from the introduction of the weapon is certain. That it may not so end is possible for the man on the witness stand created the one flaw in the defense's plan. Grant Roberts would not identify the gun without qualification. He was "pretty sure" that this was the long missing rifle, which he had bought from Clarence Fugazzi, of Frankfort, but would not speak with absolute certainty. All parties gave the weapon a thorough examination, after which the bullets were marked and the rifle's number 97,278, recorded.

More interesting developments in regard to this new piece of evidence are expected, as court adjourned with Grant Roberts on the stand. Before closing for the day, Judge Morris, at the request of the defense, issued an order for Henry Youtsey to be brought again from the penitentiary today.

S. S. Shepherd, chief deputy United States marshal at Covington who was in the state auditor's office in Frankfort in 1900, testified that the Friday or Saturday before Goebel was shot, he had seen Youtsey enter the office with a gun, apparently much excited, and that that Youtsey exclaimed: "Get your guns, something is going to happen. Caleb Powers is a brave man, but if they let me have my way about it, I will soon settle the matter. I have a good position at stake."

Shepherd said: "I was at my desk when Goebel was shot. I dropped my work and went to the west door of the legislative building, when I saw Henry Youtsey coming from the east door along the hall with a pistol in his hand." Shepherd said when he reached the door, it was open.

ABSCONDING CASHIER OF BANK IS ARRESTED

Man, Positively Identified as William F. Walker, Who is Accused of Embezzling \$665,000 From the Savings Bank of New Britain, Connecticut is Captured in a Mexican Mining Camp.

San Diego, Cal., Dec. 19.—A special dispatch to the Tribune from Eusemenda says:

"A man arrested in a mining camp about 100 miles back in the mountains has been identified as William F. Walker, formerly cashier of the Savings bank of New Britain, Conn., who is wanted to answer a charge of embezzlement in that city. He was only prevented from committing suicide by the timely intervention of the

officers in charge. A small vial which is supposed to contain poison was taken from him, also a revolver was wrested from him after he had made a desperate attempt to use it."

New York, Dec. 19.—The Pinkerton detective agency in this city confirms the report that William F. Walker, the absconding treasurer of the New Britain (Conn.) Savings

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